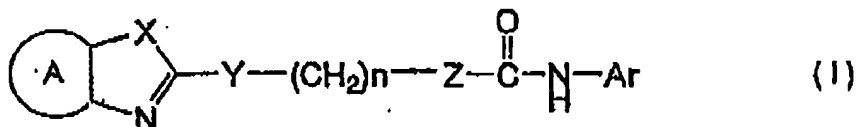


T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 2

14. (new) A compound represented by the general formula I, a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof:



wherein



represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

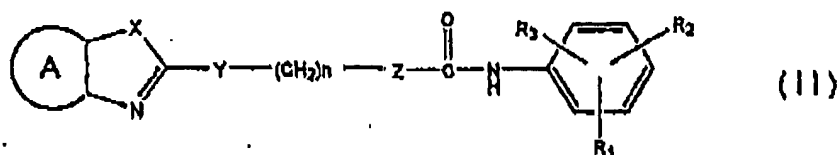
R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15;

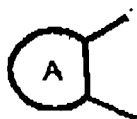
with the proviso that when n is 1 then X is -NH-.

15. (new) A compound represented by the following formula II, a salt thereof or a solvated product thereof:

T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 3



wherein



represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

R₁, R₂ and R₃ may be the same or different and represent hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a lower alkoxy group, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, phosphate group, sulfonamide group, or amino group which may or may not have a substituent; otherwise, any combination of two of R₁, R₂ and R₃ represents an alkylene dioxy group;

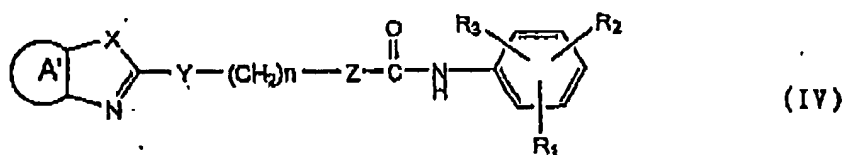
R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15;

with the proviso that when n is 1 then X is -NH-.

16. (new) A compound represented by the following general formula IV, a salt thereof or a solvated product thereof:



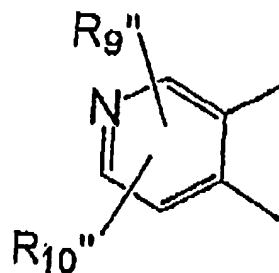
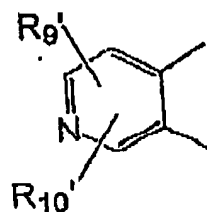
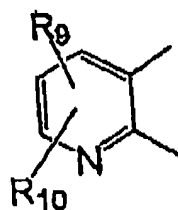
T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 4

wherein



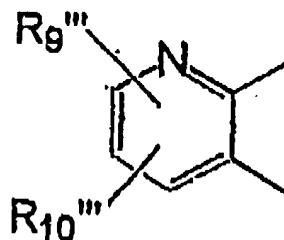
represents

B1
cont



T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 5

or



B2
cont
X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

R₁, R₂ and R₃ may be the same or different and represent hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, a lower alkoxy group, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, phosphate group, sulfonamide group, or amino group which may or may not have a substituent; otherwise, any combination of two of R₁, R₂ and R₃ represents an alkylene dioxy group;

R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₉, R₁₀, R₉', R₁₀', R₉'', R₁₀'', R₉'', and R₁₀^{'''} may be the same or different and represent hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent, a lower alkoxy group which may or may not have a substituent, halogen atom, hydroxyl group, carboxyl group, an alkoxycarbonyl group which may or may not have a substituent, an alkylcarbonyloxy group which may or may not have a substituent, an alkylcarbonyl group which may or may not have a substituent, carbamoyl group which may or may not have a substituent, a hydroxyalkyl group, phosphate group, sulfonamide group, amino group which may or may not have a substituent, an aminoalkyl group which may or may not have a substituent, or a heterocyclic residue; otherwise, any combination of two thereof represents an alkylene dioxy group; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15;

with the proviso that when n is 1 then X is -NH-.

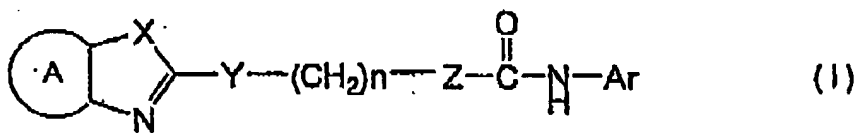
T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 6

17. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound, a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof according to any one of claims 14 to 16, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

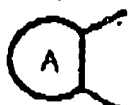
18. (new) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, which is an ACAT inhibitor, an intra-cellular cholesterol transfer inhibitory agent, a blood cholesterol-reducing agent or a macrophage foaming-suppressing agent.

19. (new) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17, which is a prophylactic and therapeutic agent of hyperlipidemia, arteriosclerosis, cerebrovascular diseases, ischemic cardiac diseases, ischemic intestinal diseases or aortic aneurysm.

20. (new) A method for therapeutically treating discases with the etiology of ACAT, intra-cellular cholesterol transfer, blood cholesterol or macrophage foaming, comprising administering a therapeutically effective dose of a compound according to Formula (I), a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof:



wherein



represents a divalent residuc of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

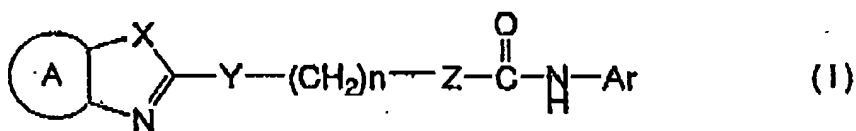
T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 7

R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

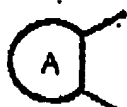
R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15.

21. (new) A method for therapeutically treating hyperlipidemia, arteriosclerosis, cerebrovascular diseases, ischemic cardiac diseases, ischemic intestinal diseases or aortic aneurysm, comprising administering a therapeutically effective dose of a compound according to Formula (I), a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof:



wherein



represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

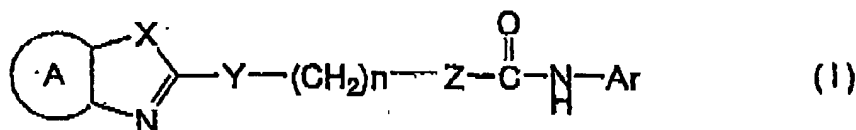
R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15.

T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 8

22. (new) The use of a compound according to Formula (I), a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof, for producing an ACAT inhibitor, an intra-cellular cholesterol transfer inhibitory agent, a blood cholesterol-reducing agent or a macrophage foaming-suppressing agent:



wherein



represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

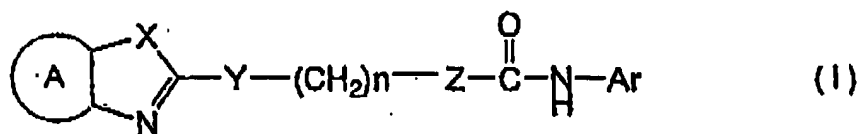
R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15.

23. (new) The use of a compound according to Formula (I), a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof, for therapeutically treating hyperlipidemia, arteriosclerosis, cerebrovascular diseases, ischemic cardiac diseases, ischemic intestinal diseases or aortic aneurysm:

T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 9



wherein



represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

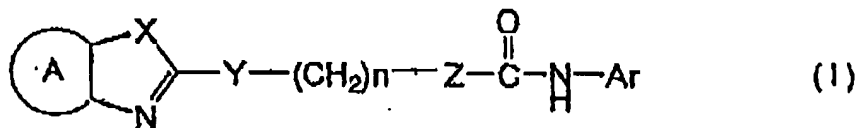
Z represents single bond;

R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15.

24. (new) An ACAT inhibitor, an intra-cellular cholesterol transfer inhibitory agent, a blood cholesterol-reducing agent or a macrophage foaming-suppressing agent comprising a compound by the following Formula (I), a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof:



wherein



T. Shibuya, et. al.
U.S.S.N.: 10/034,669
Page 10

represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

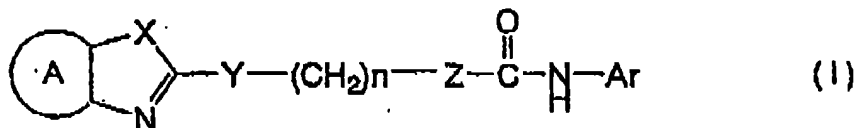
Z represents single bond;

R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;

R₅ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent; and

n represents an integer of 1 to 15.

25. (new) Prophylactic and therapeutic agent for hyperlipidemia, arteriosclerosis, cerebrovascular diseases, ischemic cardiac diseases, ischemic intestinal diseases, or aortic aneurysm comprising a compound, a salt thereof or a solvated compound thereof:



wherein



represents a divalent residue of pyridine which may or may not have a substituent;

Ar represents an aryl group which may or may not have a substituent;

X represents -NH-, oxygen atom or sulfur atom;

Y represents -NR₄-, oxygen atom, sulfur atom, sulfoxide or sulfone;

Z represents single bond;

R₄ represents hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group, an aryl group or a silylated lower alkyl group which may or may not have a substituent;